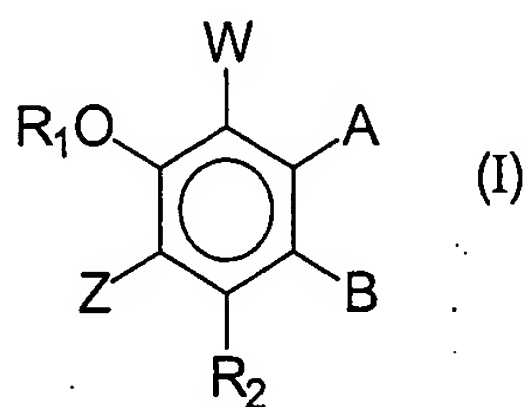


25. A method for the treatment of sunlight induced skin damage, comprising administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of one or more compounds of the formula I:



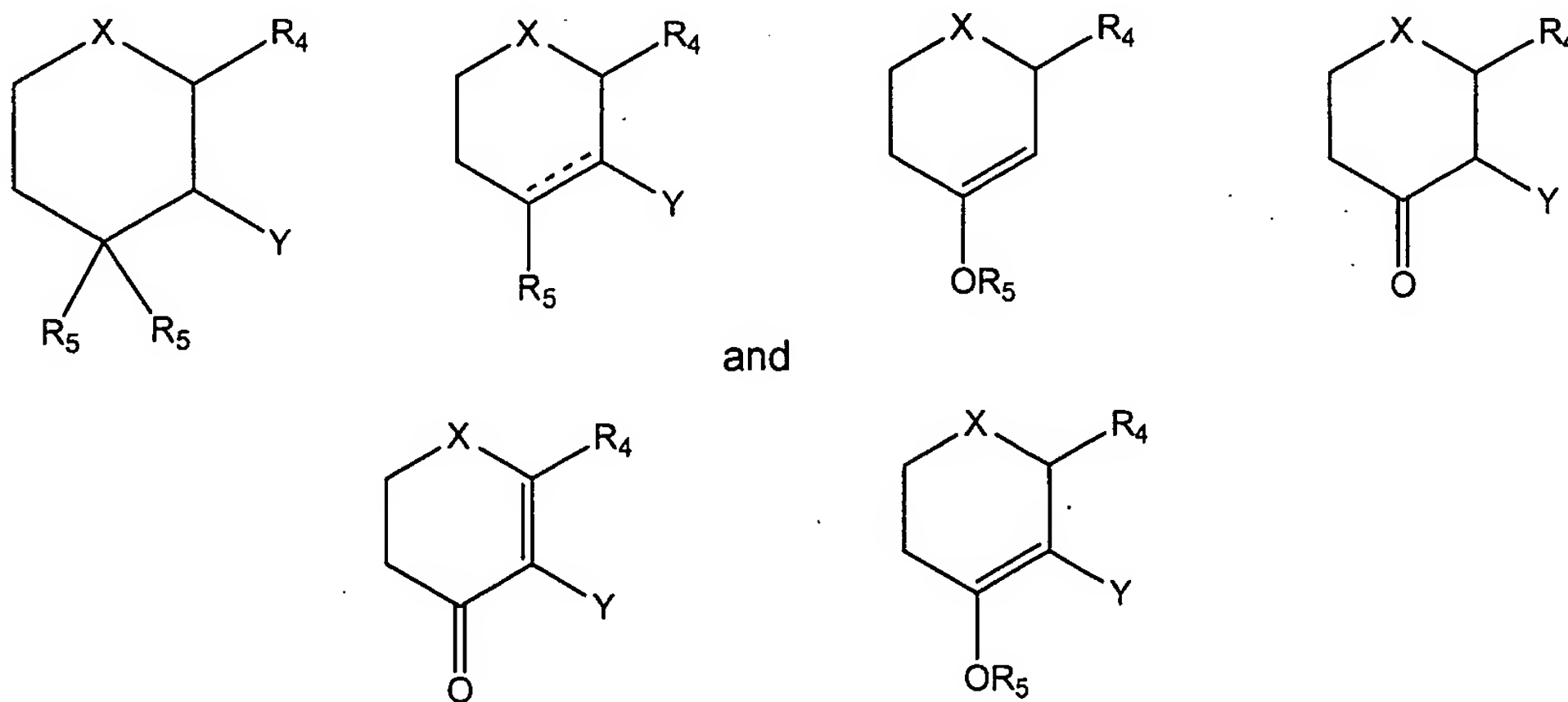
wherein

Z is H;

R₁ is H or R_ACO, where R_A is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or an amino acid;

R₂ is H, OH, or OR_B, where R_B is an amino acid or COR_A, where R_A is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or an amino acid;

W is H; and A and B taken together form a six membered ring selected from



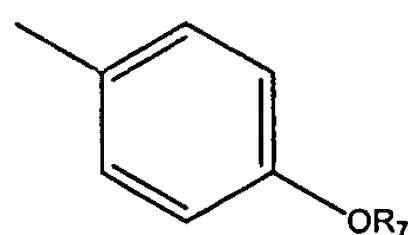
where “---” represents either a single bond or a double bond;

R_4 is H, COR_D , CO_2R_C , COR_E , $COOH$, COR_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_5 is H, CO_2R_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

X is O, N, or S; and

Y is



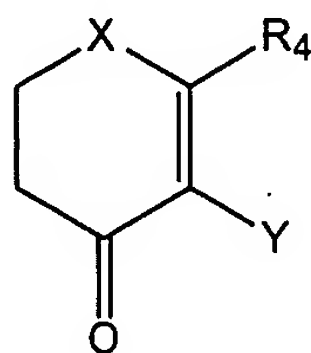
where R_7 is H, or C_{1-10} alkyl;

with the proviso that compounds of the formula I where

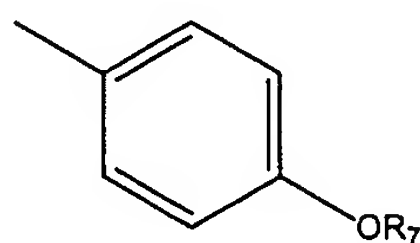
R_1 , W, and Z are H,

R_2 is H or OH,

A and B taken together are a six membered ring



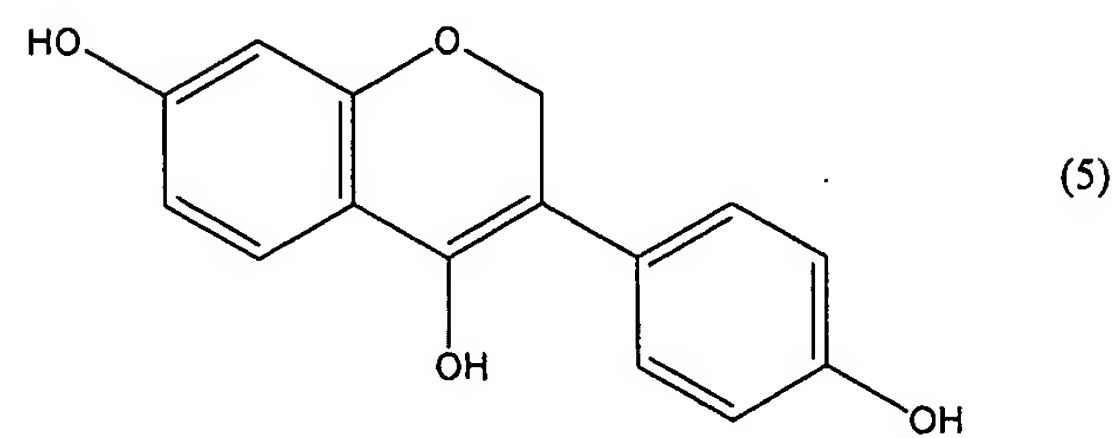
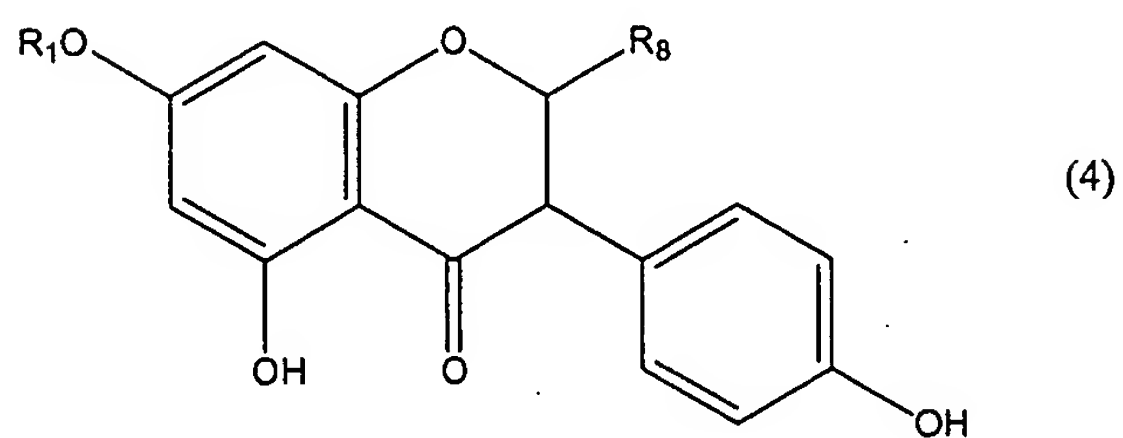
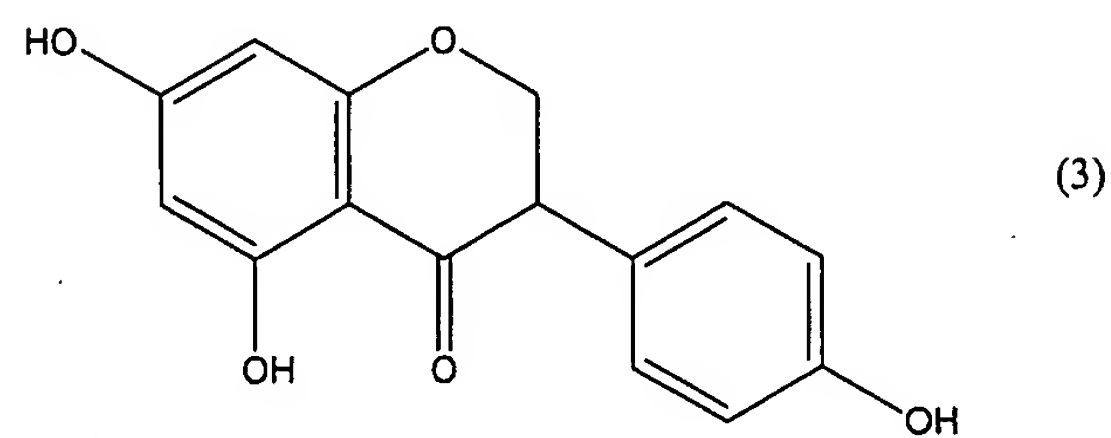
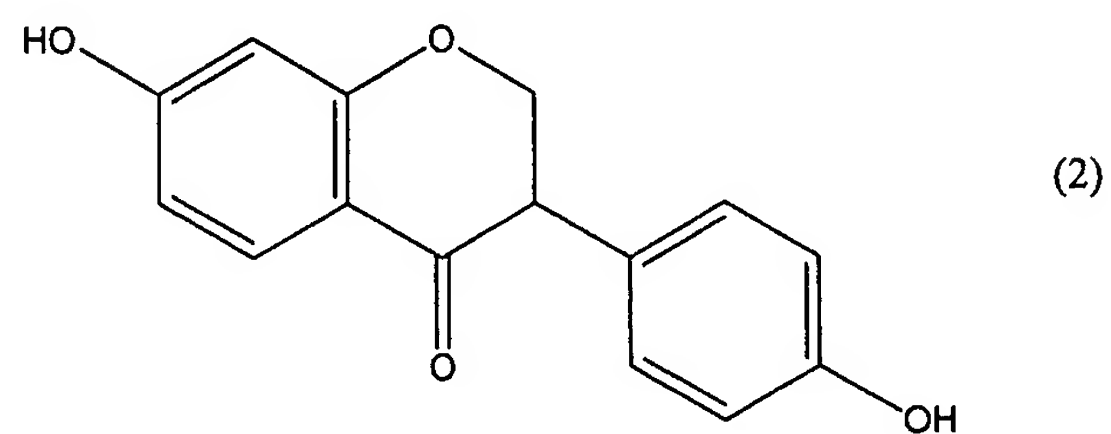
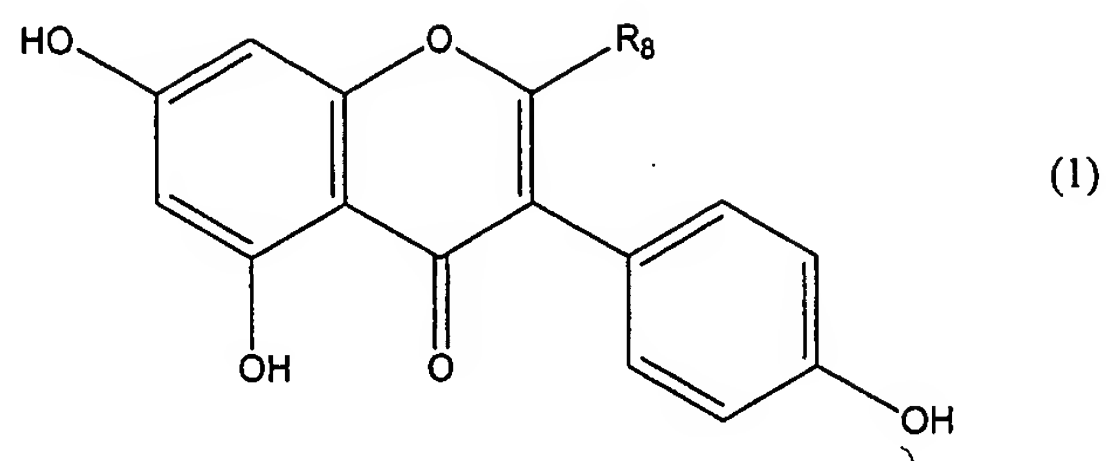
wherein Y is

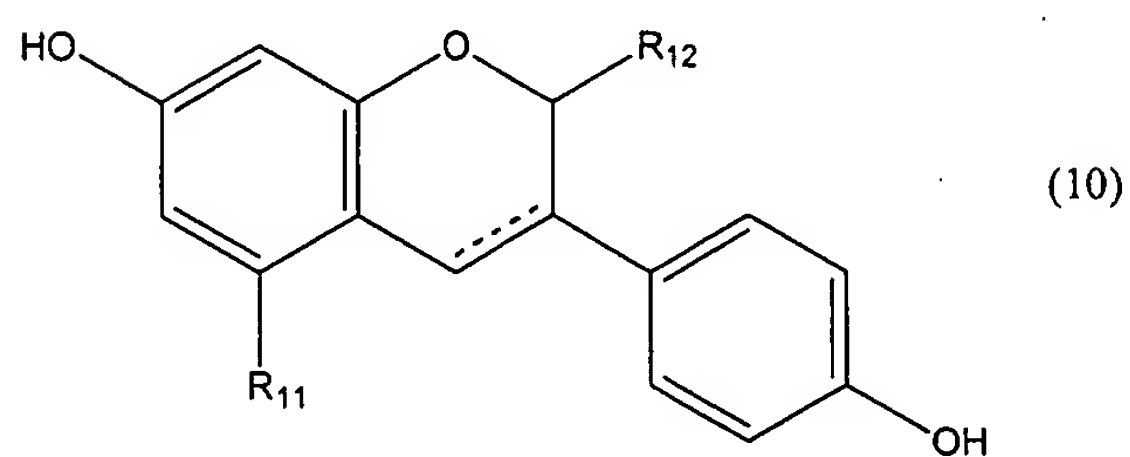
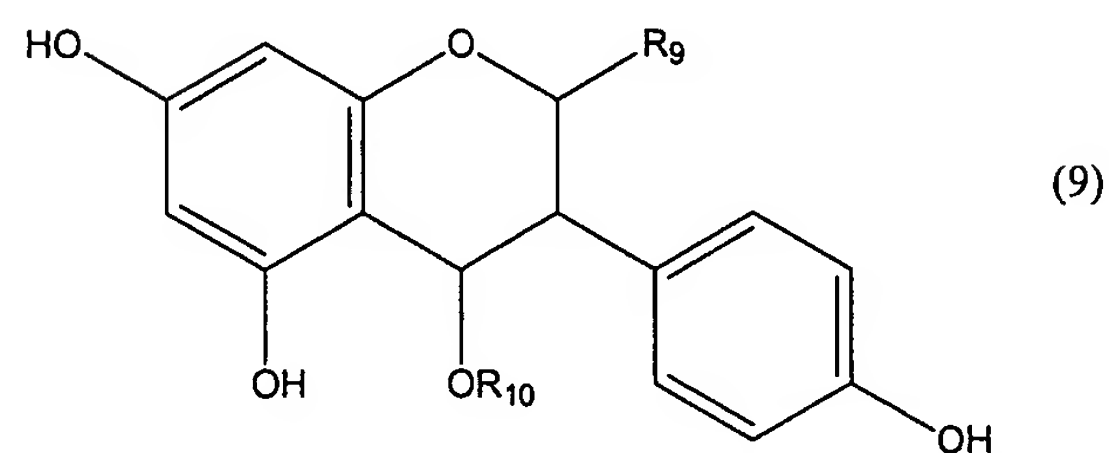
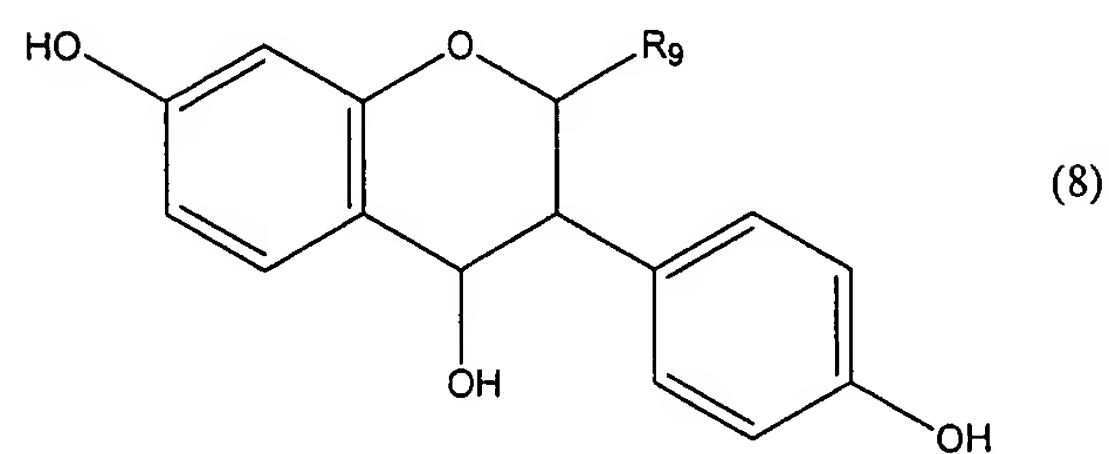
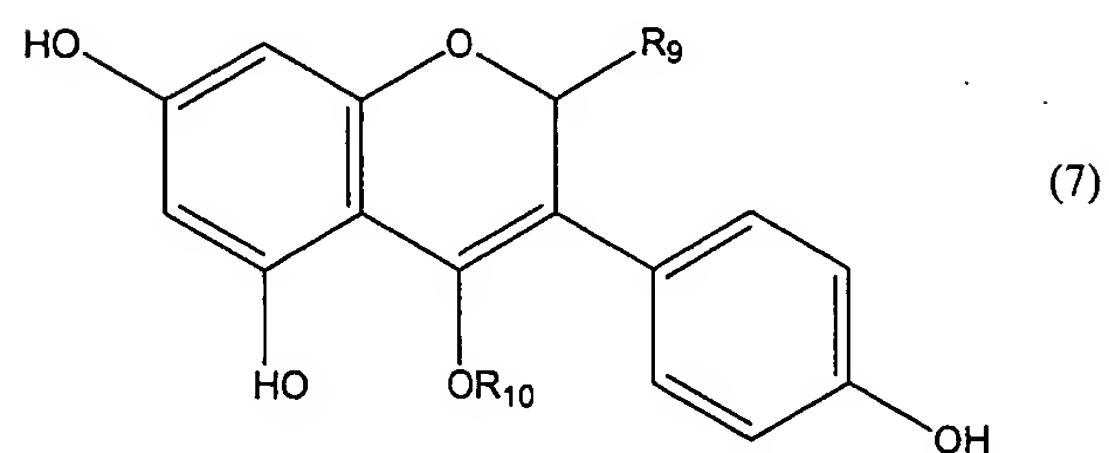
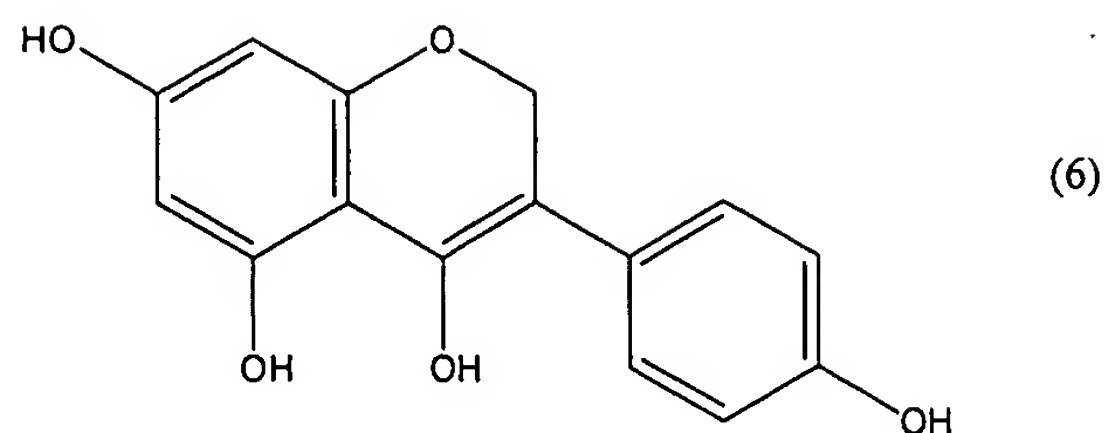


and R_7 is H or CH_3 ,

are excluded.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein at least one of the one or more compounds of the formula I is selected from:





wherein

R_8 is COR_D , where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,

R_9 is CO_2R_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,

and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

R_{10} is COR_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,

and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different; and

"---" represents either a single bond or double bond.

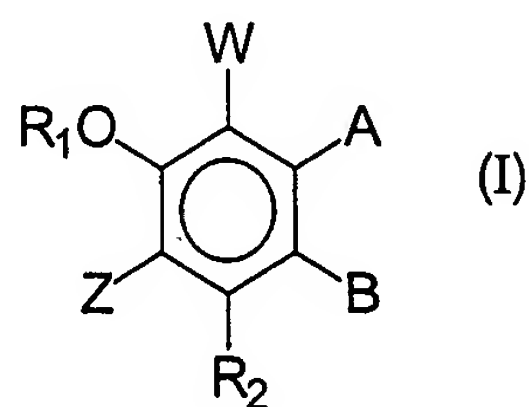
27. The method of claim 26, wherein the one or more compounds of formula I are administered with a carrier or excipient.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the one or more compounds of formula I are administered to the subject topically, and wherein the carrier or excipient is selected from cream, gel, lotion, paste, spray, oil, aerosol, and ointment.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein the carrier or excipient is selected from a cosmetic skin cream and a sun screen.

30. The method of claim 27, wherein the one or more compounds of formula I are administered orally.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the carrier or excipient is in a form selected from a tablet, capsule, lozenge, cachet, powder, granule, aqueous liquid, and non-aqueous liquid.
32. The method of claim 25, wherein the composition further comprises vitamin E.
33. The method of claim 25, wherein the method is a method for the treatment of wrinkles.
34. A sunscreen composition comprising:
one or more topically acceptable carriers; and
one or more compounds of the formula I:



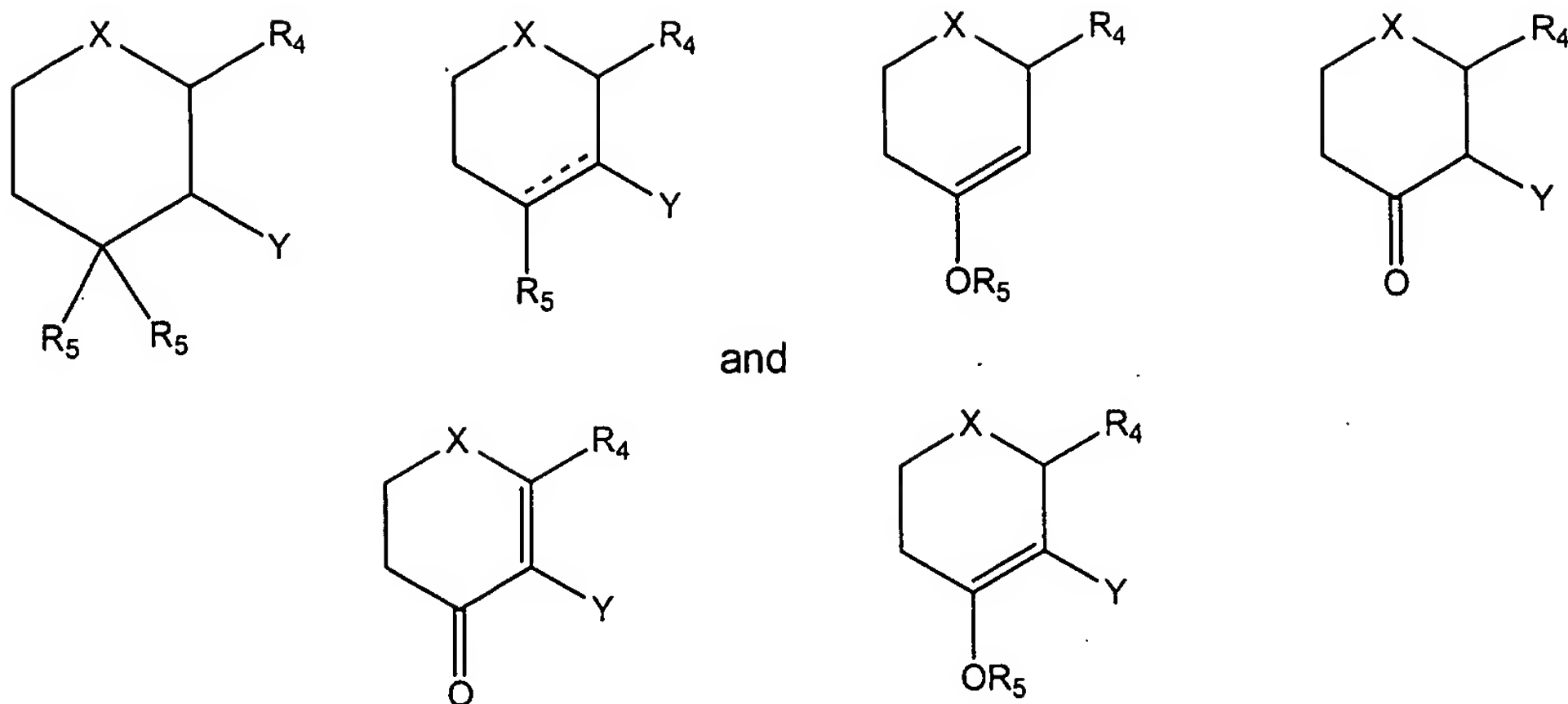
wherein

Z is H;

R₁ is H, or R_ACO where R_A is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or an amino acid;

R₂ is H, OH, or OR_B, where R_B is an amino acid or COR_A where R_A is C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or an amino acid; and

W is H, and A and B taken together form a six membered ring selected from



where “---” represents either a single bond or a double bond;

wherein

R_3 is H, COR_A , CO_2R_C , or COR_B , where R_A is C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_B is an amino acid or COR_A ;

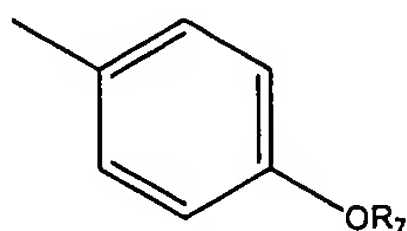
R_4 is H, COR_D , CO_2R_C , COR_E , COOH , COR_C , or CONHR_E , where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_5 is H, CO_2R_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

R_6 is H or hydroxy C_{1-10} alkyl;

X is O, N, or S; and

Y is



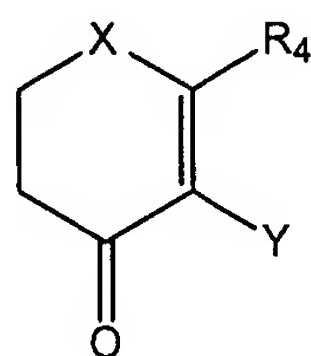
where R_7 is H, or C_{1-10} alkyl;

with the proviso that compounds of the formula I where

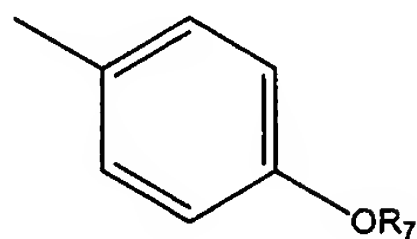
R_1 , W, and Z are H,

R_2 is H or OH,

A and B taken together are a six membered ring



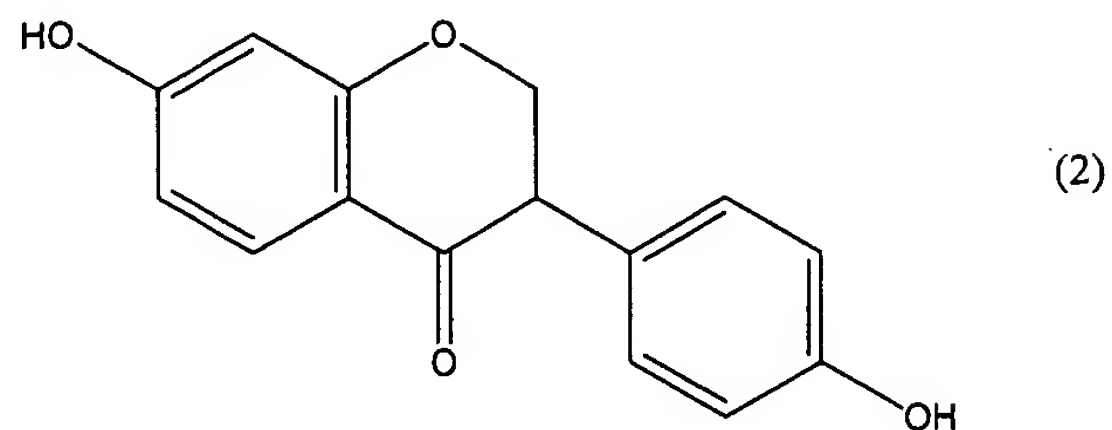
wherein Y is

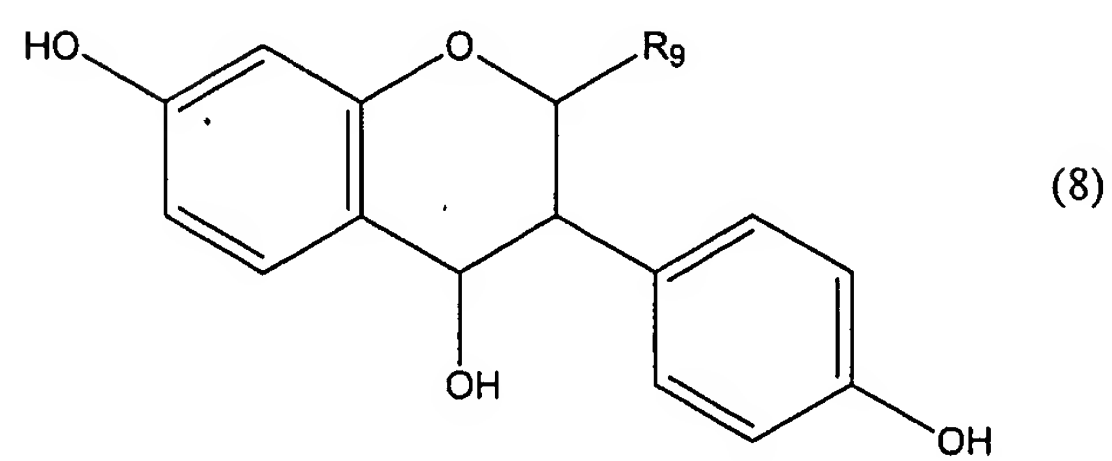
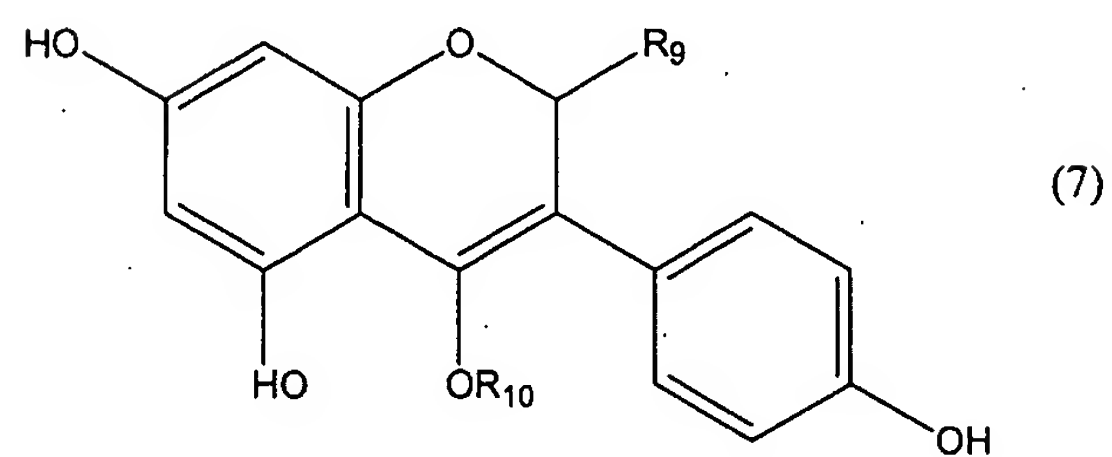
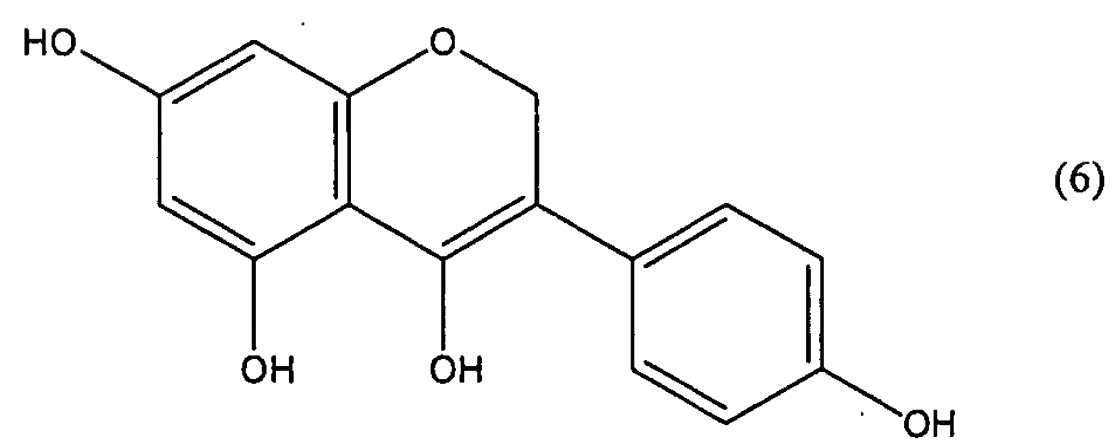
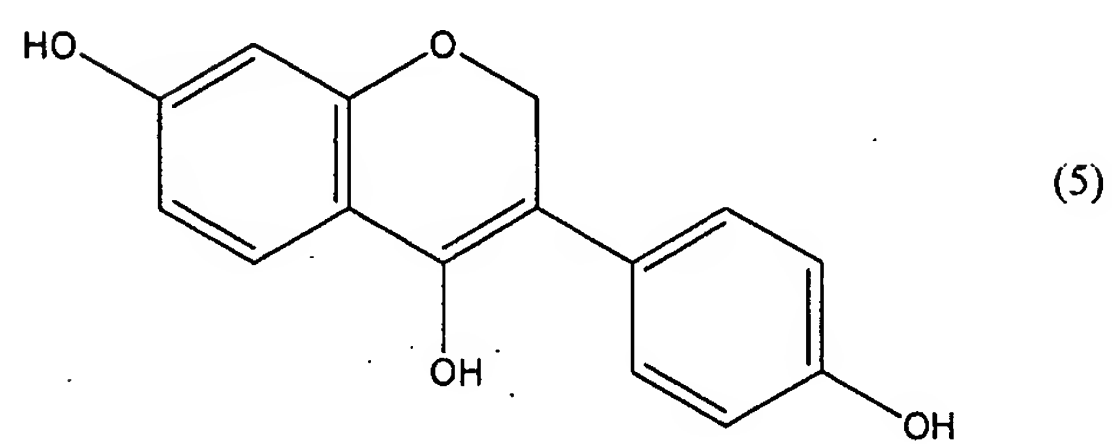
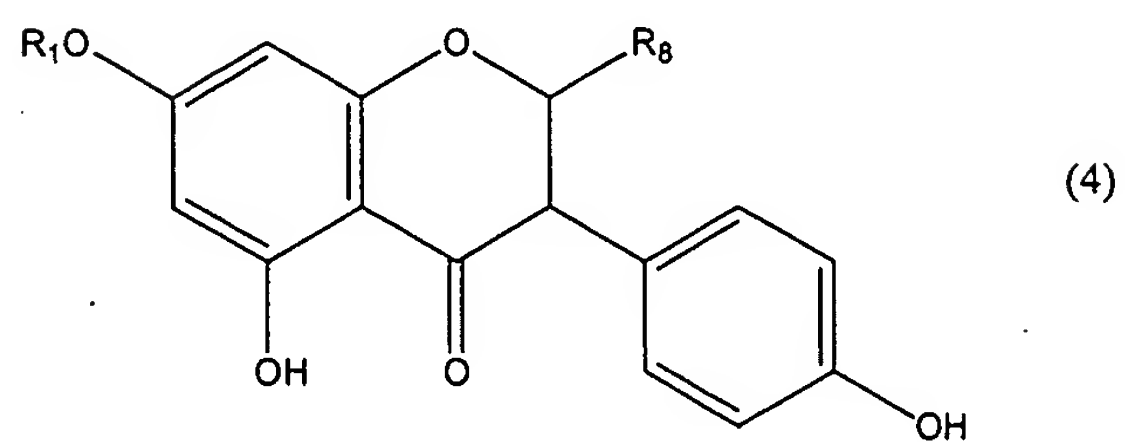
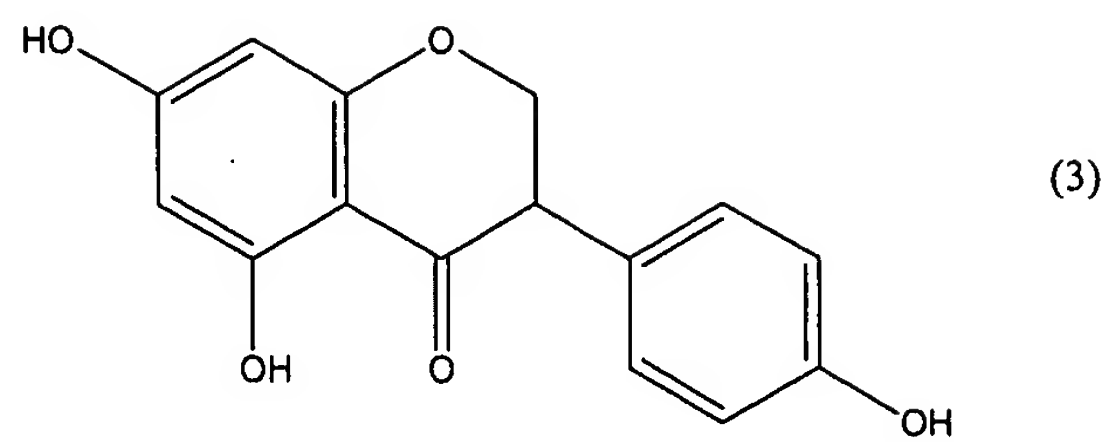


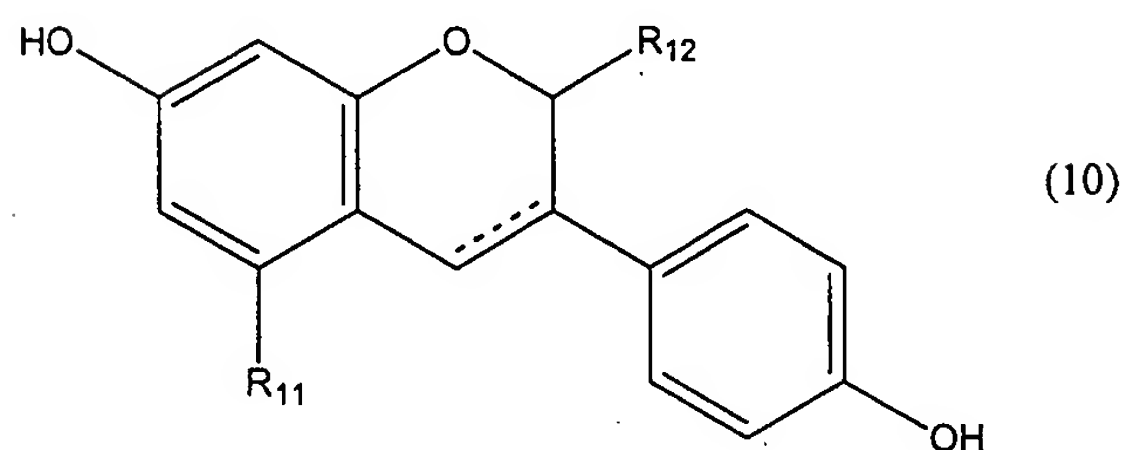
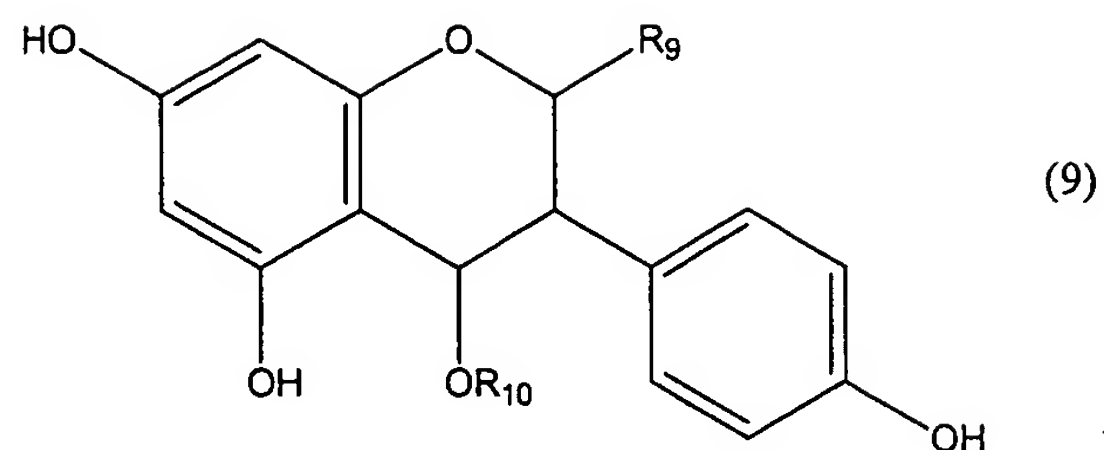
and R_7 is H or CH₃,

are excluded.

35. The composition of claim 34, wherein at least one of the one or more compounds of the formula I is selected from:







wherein

R_8 is COR_D , where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_9 is CO_2R_C or COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_{10} is COR_C or $COR_C R_E$, where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

“---” represents either a single bond or double bond.

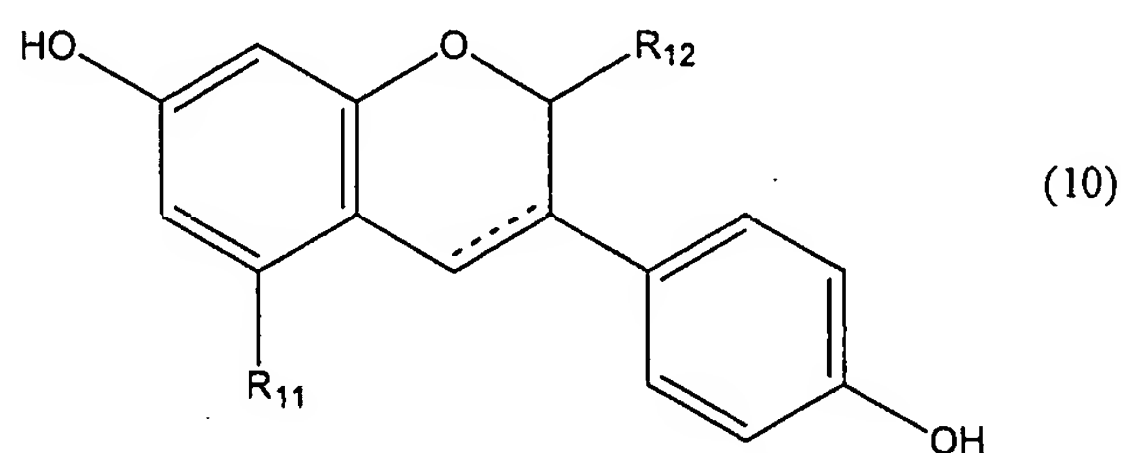
36. The composition of claim 35, wherein the composition further comprises a carrier or excipient.

37. The composition of claim 36, wherein the composition is administered to the subject topically and the carrier or excipient is selected from cream, gel, lotion, paste, spray, oil, aerosol, and ointment.

38. The composition of claim 36, wherein the carrier or excipient is selected from a cosmetic skin cream and a sun screen.

39. The composition of claim 35, wherein the composition further comprises vitamin E.

40. A method for the treatment of sunlight induced skin damage comprising topically administering to a subject a composition comprising a compound of the formula:



wherein

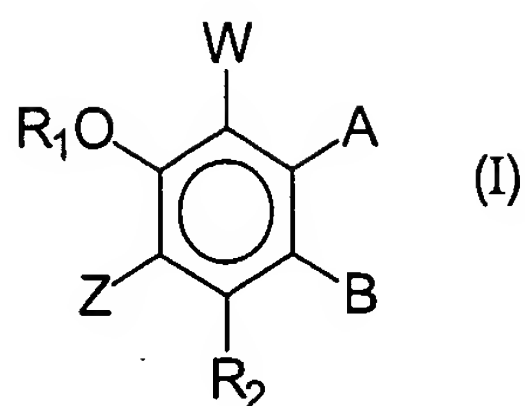
R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or CONHR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

“---” represents either a single bond or double bond.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the composition further comprises vitamin E.

42. A composition for topical administration to the skin comprising one or more compounds of the formula I:



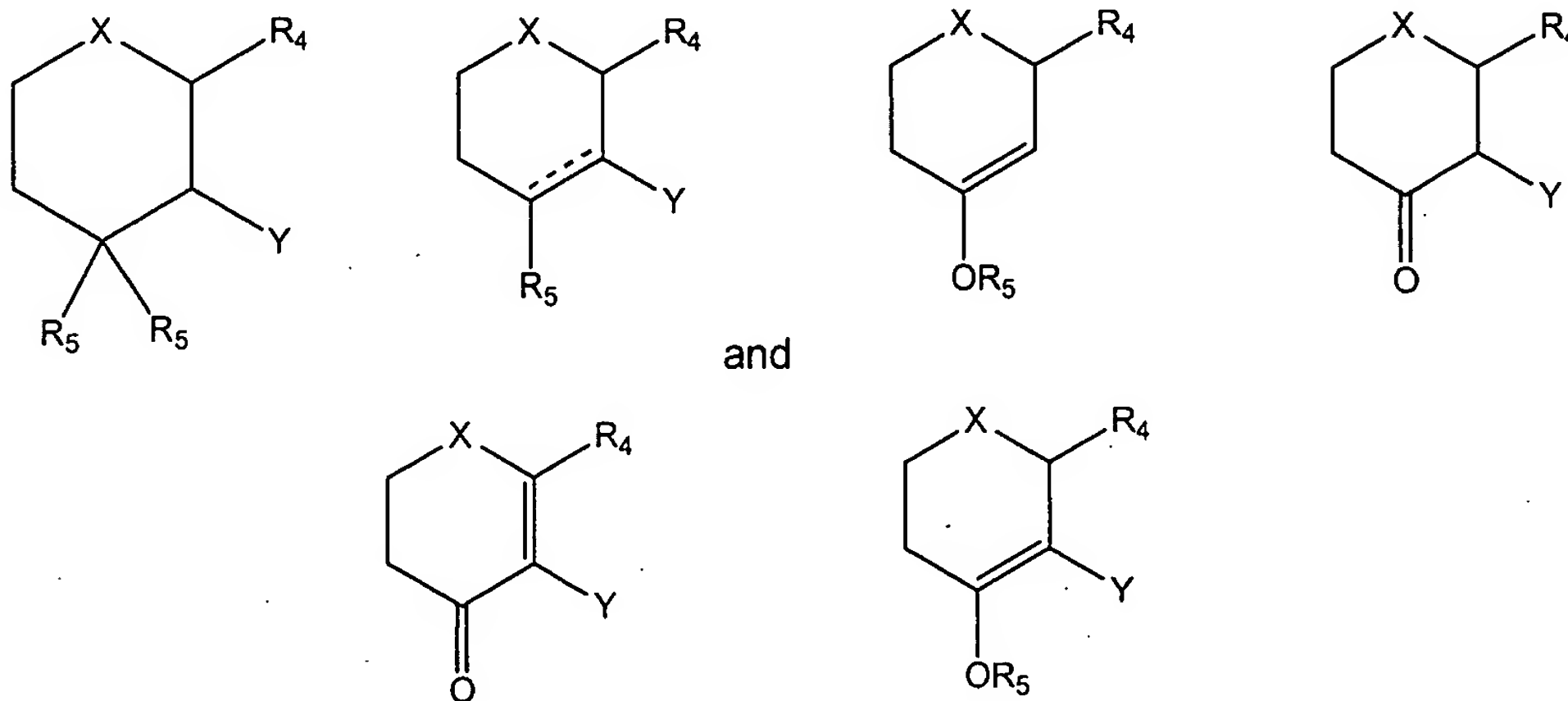
wherein

Z is H;

R_1 is H or $R_A\text{CO}$, where R_A is C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_2 is H, OH, or OR_B , where R_B is an amino acid or COR_A , where R_A is C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

W is H; and A and B taken together form a six membered ring selected from



wherein “---” represents either a single bond or a double bond;

wherein

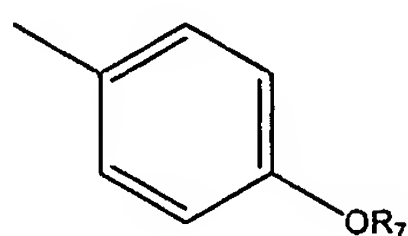
R_3 is H, COR_A , CO_2R_C , or COR_B , where R_A is C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_B is an amino acid or COR_A ;

R_4 is H, COR_D , CO_2R_C , COR_E , $COOH$, COR_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid;

R_5 is H, CO_2R_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid, and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

X is O, N, or S; and

Y is



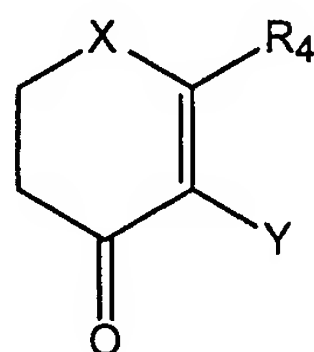
where R_7 is H, or C_{1-10} alkyl,

with the proviso that compounds of the formula I where

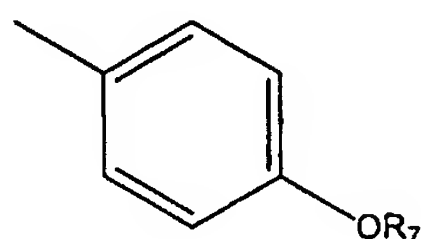
R_1 , W, and Z are H,

R_2 is H or OH,

A and B taken together are a six membered ring



wherein Y is

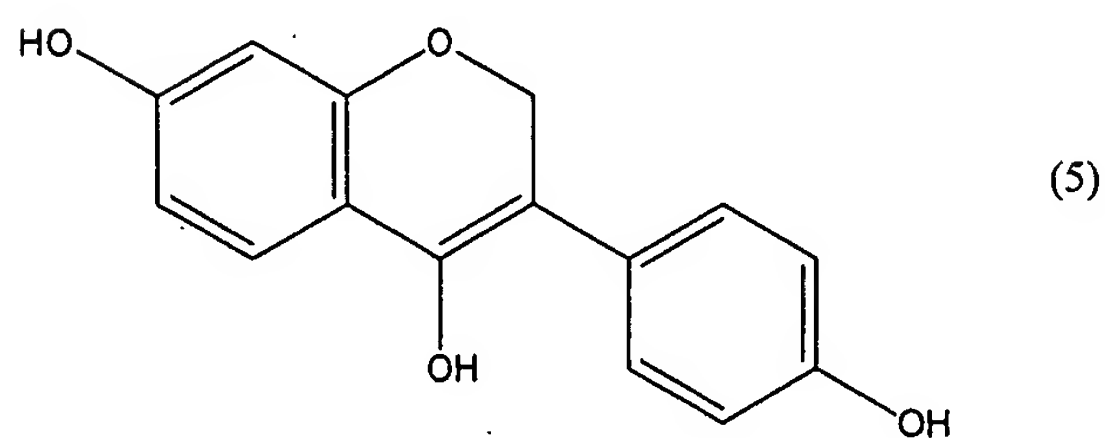
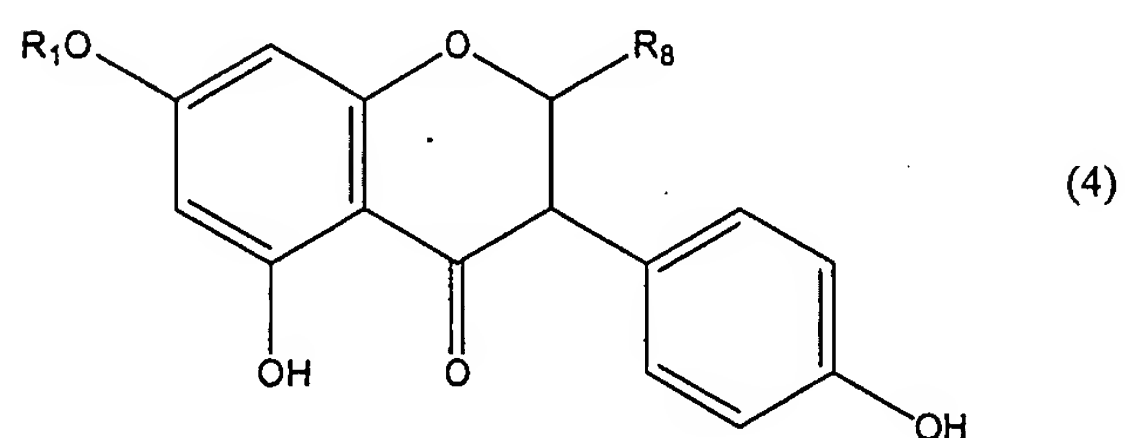
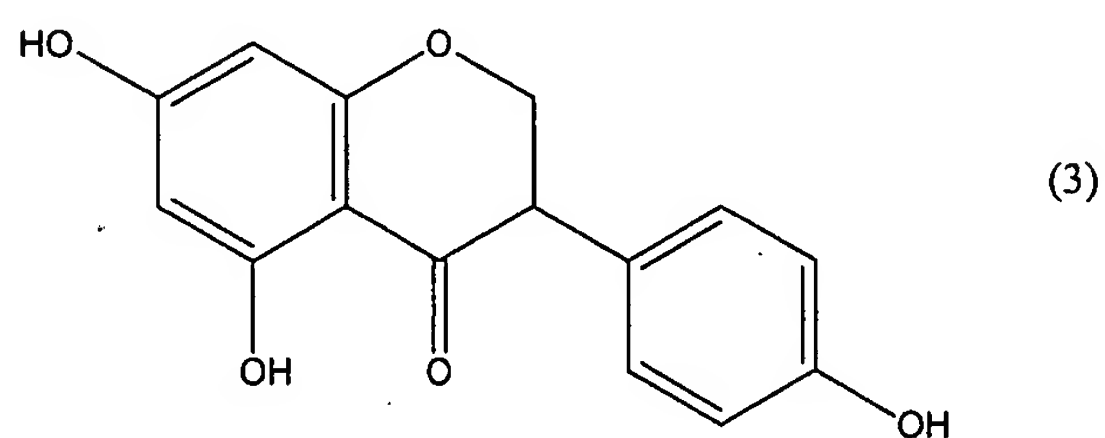
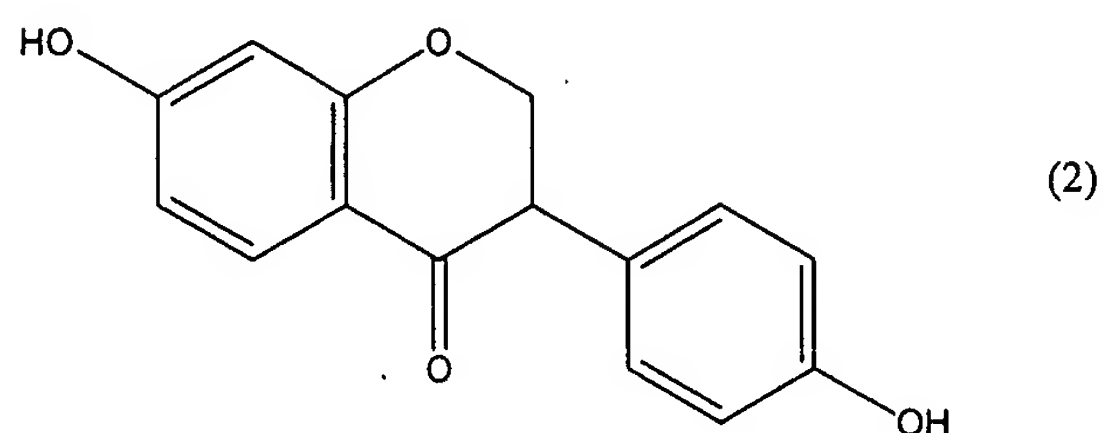


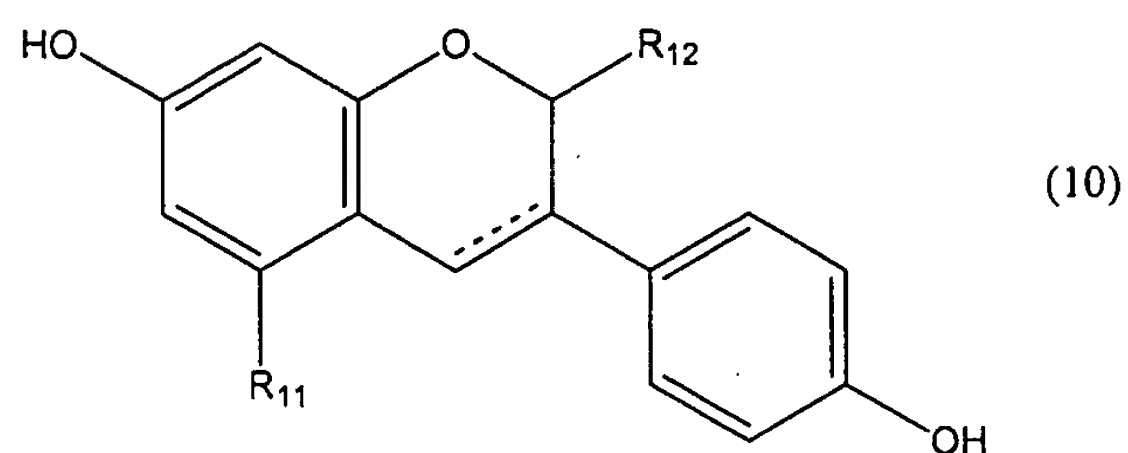
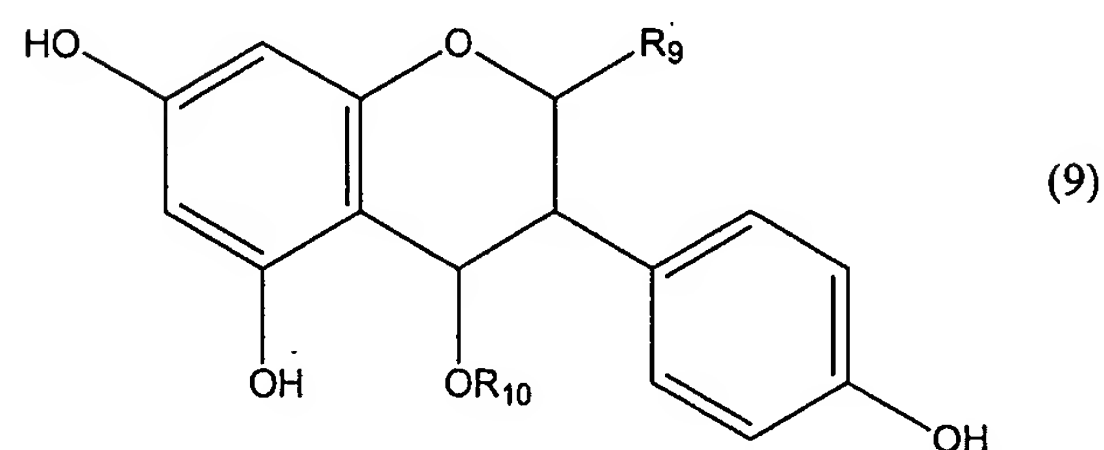
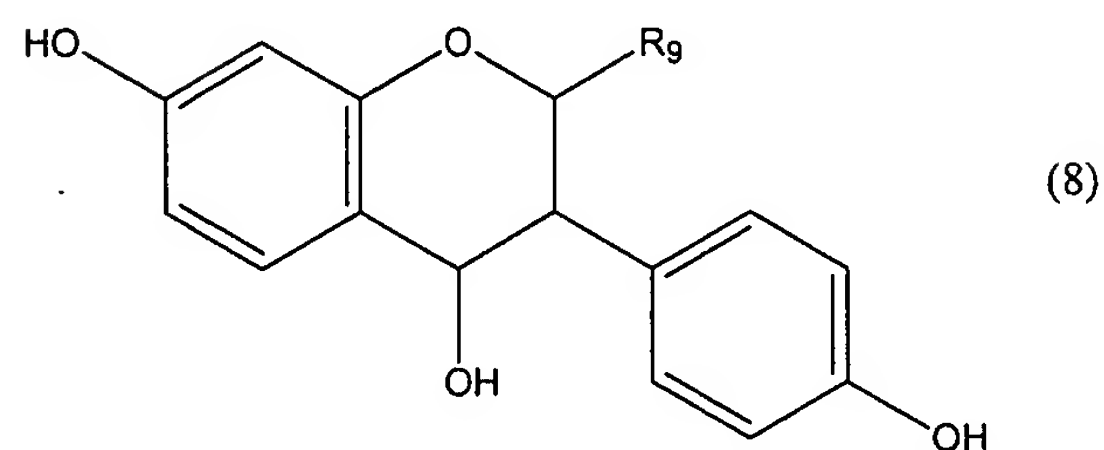
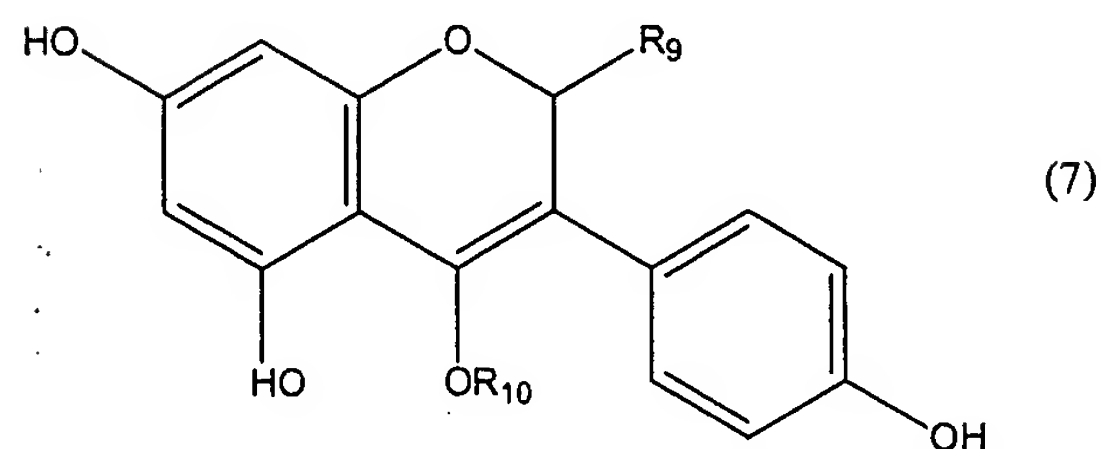
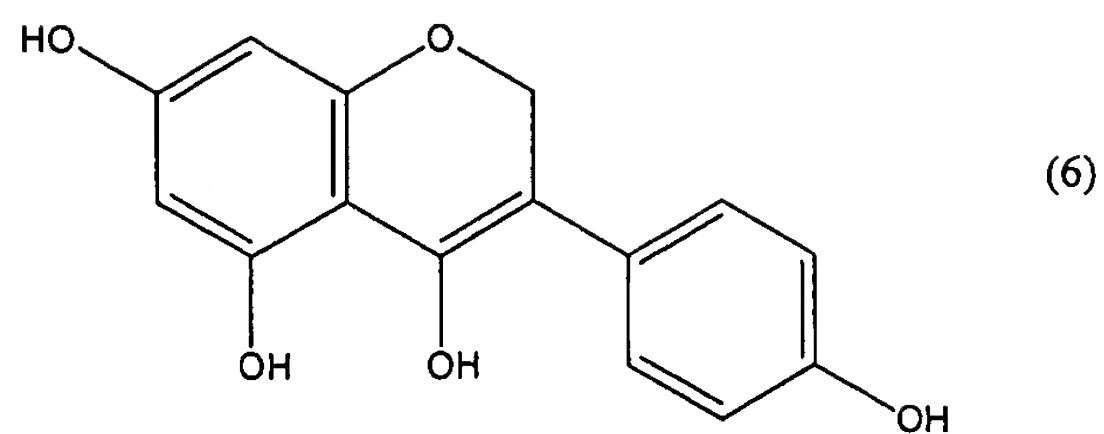
and R_7 is H or CH_3 ,

are excluded;

in the form of an ointment, cream, lotion, paste, gel, spray, aerosol or oil.

43. The composition of claim 42 wherein at least one of the one or more compounds of the formula I are selected from:





wherein

R_8 is COR_D , where R_D is H, OH, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,

R_9 is CO_2R_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,

and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are identical or different;

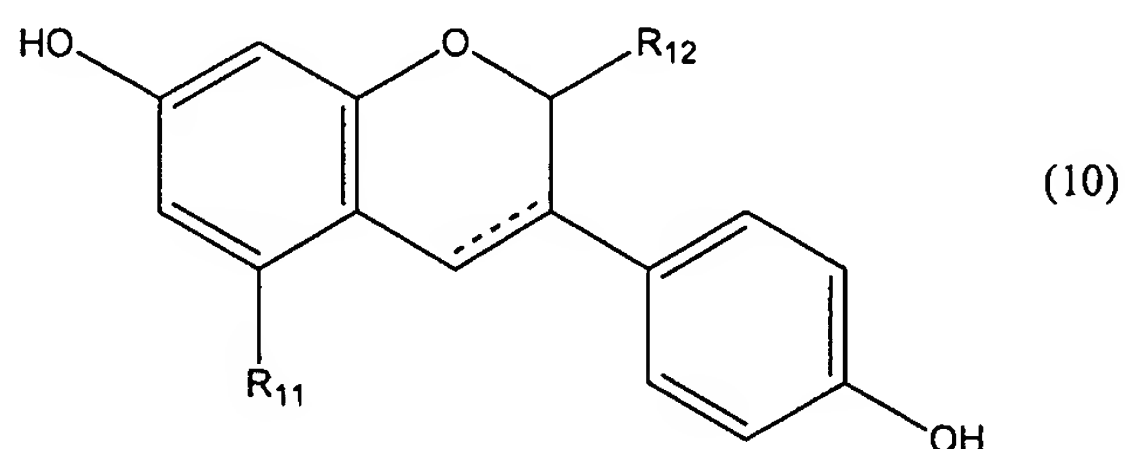
R_{10} is COR_C , or COR_COR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid,
and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same group they are
identical or different;

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an
amino acid, and with the proviso that where the two R_5 groups are attached to the same
group they are identical or different; and

“---” represents either a single bond or double bond.

44. The composition of claim 43 comprising a compound of the formula:



wherein

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or $CONHR_E$, where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an
amino acid; and

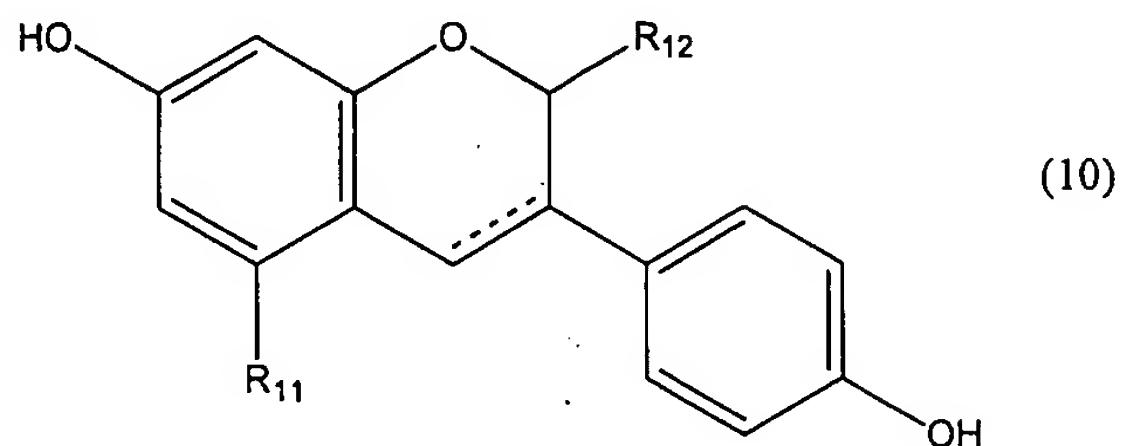
“---” represents either a single bond or double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

45. The composition of claim 42 which is a cosmetic skin cream.

46. The composition of claim 42 which is a sunscreen.

47. A cosmetic skin cream which comprises a compound of the formula:



wherein

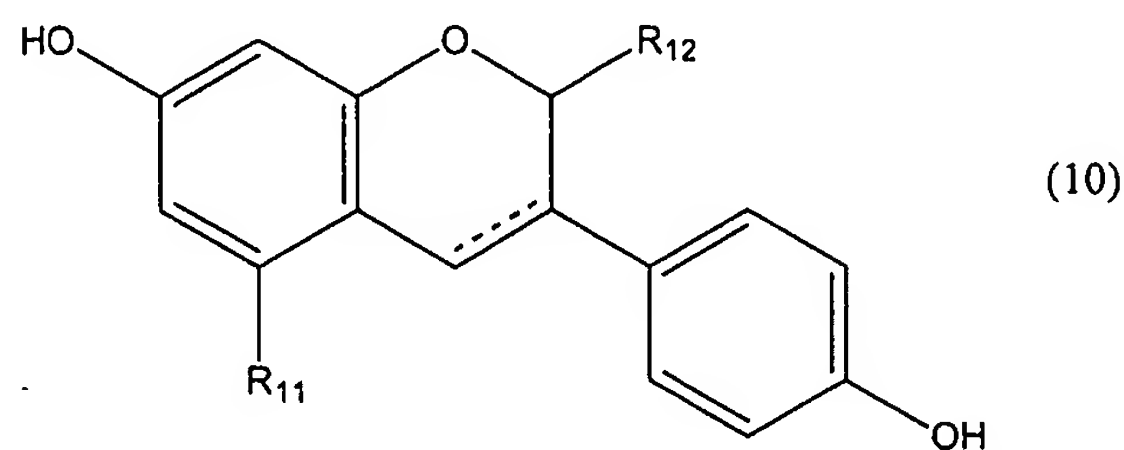
R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or CONHR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

“---” represents either a single bond or double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

48. A sunscreen for protection of the skin from sunlight induced skin damage which comprises a compound of the formula:



wherein

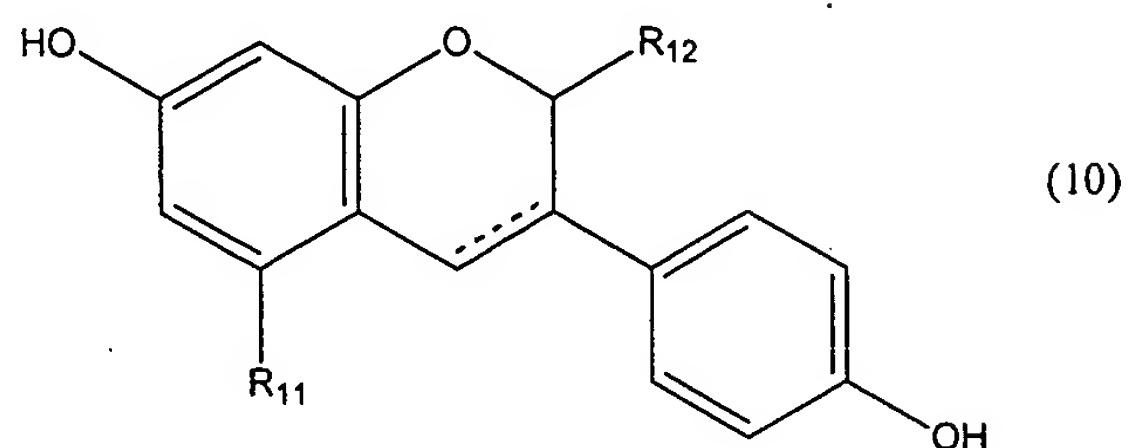
R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or CONHR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

"---" represents either a single bond or double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipients.

49. A compound of the formula:



wherein

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or CONHR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

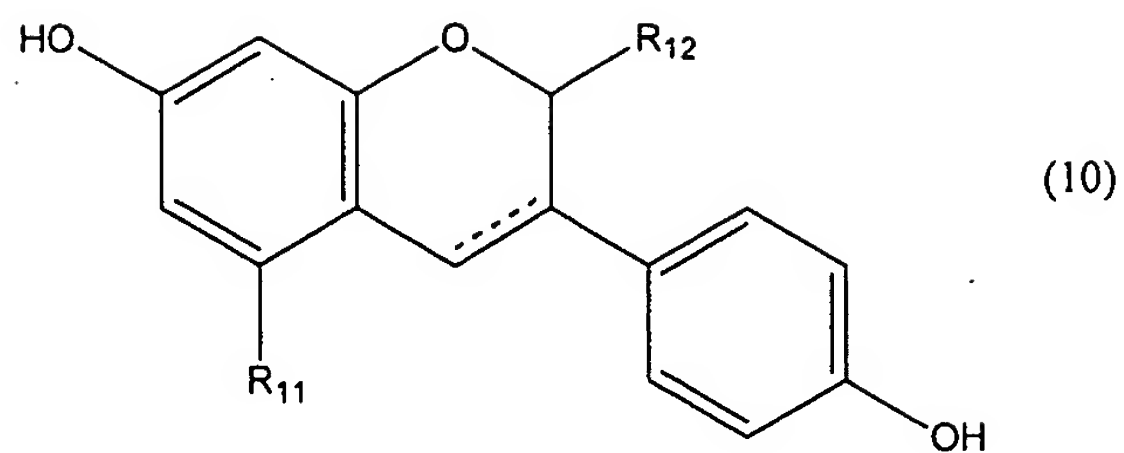
"---" represents either a single bond or double bond;

with the proviso that compounds where R_{11} and R_{12} are H, and

"---" is a single bond,

are excluded.

50. A composition comprising a compound of the formula:



wherein

R_{11} is H or OH;

R_{12} is H, COOH, CO_2R_C , or CONHR_E , where R_C is C_{1-10} alkyl, and R_E is H, C_{1-10} alkyl or an amino acid; and

“---” represents either a single bond or double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.